

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-302026 in view of JP 2000-006759, and in further view of Midorikawa, U.S. Pat. No. 6,332,629 and Eiji JP 2000-225921.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, and 9 have been cancelled.

The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of JP 2002-302026 in view of JP 2000-006759 and Midorikawa, U.S. Pat. No. 6,332,629 (hereinafter "Midorikawa ('629)'), as applied to claims 1, 4, 5, and 8 above, and in further view of Midorikawa, GB 2,373,220 (hereinafter "Midorikawa ('220)').

Claims 6 and 7 have been cancelled.

The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of JP 2002-302026, JP 2000-006759, and Midorikawa U.S. Pat. No. 6,332,629 as applied to claims 1, 4, 5, and 8 above, and in further view of McFarland U.S. Pat. No. 6,701,849 .

Claim 10 has been cancelled.

The Examiner allowed claims 15-17.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims 15-17.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160, our Order No. SHG-16197.

Respectfully submitted,

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